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29 June 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: SE-46: Probable Long Term Developments of the Soviet Bloc and Western Power Positions

1. Several points made in the Board draft of this estimate had to be modified, and the material in paragraph 14 was altered, in order to achieve a coordinated draft in the short time available. We believe that these concessions were justified by the desirability of having a coordinated estimate on this subject.

2. It was not possible to have a clean-up session. Consequently, a good many minor matters in connection with the draft will undoubtedly be brought up at the IAC meeting. At present we know of only two substantial differences of opinion:

(a) Paragraph 14. Air disagrees with much of this paragraph, and will almost certainly suggest that, as a minimum alteration, the words "for waging general war" be deleted from the second sentence.

(b) Paragraph 27. State believes that the first sentence of this paragraph carries an implication that "internal decay or collapse" is more likely to occur in the Soviet Bloc than in the West. State is not prepared to defend this implication, and may take a footnote.

3. Through an error in preparing the text, a short paragraph to follow present paragraph 26 was omitted. Copy of this omitted paragraph is attached to this memorandum.

SHERMAN KENT
Assistant Director
National Estimates

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